

我不能忘記的人物

The Most Unforgettable Character I've Met

By Austing Strong

I can see her now — a small woman in a blue dress, sitting barefoot on the roof of the aftercabin of a trading schooner in the South Seas. Her Panama hat, set at a rakish angle, shades a face of breathtaking beauty. She is holding a large silvered revolver in each hand, shooting sparks with deadly accuracy as they are caught and hauled to the taffrail by excited sailors.

我現在眼前可以看見她……在南洋海面上，一位小個子的婦人，穿著藍色的衣服，光腳蹲坐在一隻三桅帆船的後邊甲板上。面上一派憂鬱，戴了一頂巴拿馬草帽，正望著遠方。令人難禁的從前情懷，兩鬢上各執一桿銀色的手槍，以百發百中的手法射著水中的魚鳥，當它被攔住時，與高烈度的水手就將它拖上船裏來。

Reverly Booth Tarkington wrote me: "I once walked across the lobby of the Claypool Hotel in Indianapolis with her. The proprietor of the hotel, eigarsand came excitedly at me after I'd put her in the

lyncaptured by her beauty and astonished to find a character as strong as his own.

雖然她具有無敵女性的溫柔，年長，安詳，可是她卻使人認為她擁有一種不可忽視的極強毅力。當她的蘇格蘭親戚的丈夫帶著她到美國去時，首次看見她的父母時，他警告她說他的父親是一個可怕的賭徒。工程師說設計者，他是個好嘲諷的加爾西達主義者，用取戲謔的手段來管理公司。她知道她反對他們很困難，因為這位老人家會反對他的兒子娶一個不他是美國人並且還是個蘇格蘭姑娘的人。但是當他們進了門的時候，這嚴格的蘇格蘭老人家完全流於她的美麗之下，並且很服從的服侍

救濟者，和 said, 'Ereusie mo, Mr. Tarkington, but, my God, who was that?' Effect of, visibly, a personage." Indeed she was a personage, yet she was little known to the world because she shunned the limelight.

不久以前有茲達金寫信給我：「我有一次和紐——齊老邁即地那波里的克雷普登的鄰子下面，當我驚覺上了電梯後，旅館的查爾斯不人驚異的跑過來對我說，『劉不起』，茲達金因為，老天，那時誰了？」這顯然因為她是個「人物」了。她的確是個人物，因為她不好出風頭，所以世界上知道她的人不多。

Infinitely feminine, self-effacing, and said, 'Ereusie mo, Mr. Tarkington, but, my God, who was that?' Effect of, visibly, a personage." Indeed she was a personage, yet she was little known to the world because she shunned the limelight.

了一個和他自己已有同等堅強性格的人。

At dinner that first evening, fluding the roast overdone, he lost his temper and shouted at the maids, crinkling in their starched aprons. His daughter-in-law rose from her chair, her face white and her eyes big with wrath, for nothing roused her fury more than injustice. "You are a spoiled old man," she said in a voice like water running under ice. "You are taking a cruel advantage of these helpless people who cannot answer back. If you ever again raise your voice against these faithful women I shall

instantly leave this house and never set foot in it as long as I live!"

第一天晚上吃晚飯時，他覺得肉烤得太老了，發怒起來對女僕高聲

to meet his parents for the 大駕，寫得女僕們都縮在他「沾滿」

小孩子的錢

After the failure of her first marriage, Fanny Van de Grift fell in love and married a young unknown writer who was ill of tuberculosis. She knew instinctively that he was a true genius and that if she could but keep him alive

would give to the world an immortal name. From then on for many years her life was one long battle with the disease reaper, spent forever wandering about the world seeking a climate which would bring her husband health.

凡尼丹底拿雷夫脫在第一次婚姻失敗之後，又和一位青年的無名之家發生戀愛，結婚了，那位作家患着肺病。她知道他是個真實的天才，只要他能維持他的生命，就能給世界上留下一個不朽的名子。自結婚之後許多年，她我生活就成為對神的鬥爭，不斷的在世界各處周遊，尋求一處氣候可以使她丈夫恢復健康的方地方。

She fought a losing fight in many lands until advised to

get him on salt water and keep him there. Then with desperate courage she took him to sea, enduring weeks of

responsibility of nurturing him away from medical care as he wandered, in all kinds of ways, on the vast, then uncharted Pacific. They sailed through the dangerous waters around the Marshall Islands, the Gilbert Islands, the Line Islands, the Phoenix Islands, the Hawaiian Islands, and the Johnston Atoll.

她在許多地方上都失敗了，終於接受別人的勸告到海洋上來使他在那裡療養。於是她以無限的勇氣帶了他到海上來，離開文明世界多遠！在各式的船隻中周遊各處，遠離醫藥期間，她就負起看護他的全責，終於選定了太平洋。他們駛過了危險的阿赫比拉哥，馬紹爾羣島，馬克薩斯羣島，吉爾伯羣島，受到了颶風；野人和船隻破損的災難。

had to live on a tiny trading vessel with 15 men, exposed to a pitiless lack of privacy; sleeping in the leaking after-cabin crowded with wet human beings.

belong, fighting monster cock-
roaches bent on eating off her
eyebrows as she snatched at
deep between the squalls which
threatened to capsize the tiny

她，一個敏銳的女人，有一次和五個男人一起住在一艘小型的貿易船上，毫無辦理私下事務的地方。

睡在破漏的後艙中與濕漉漉的人擁擠在一起。當她在勢欲吞嚥小舟的驚濤駭浪之中設法睡眠的時候，還要提防着船內的大虫子跑來咬她的眉毛。

(To Be Continued 未完)

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